

CLAIMS

1. A re-configurable interface used in modular electronic architectures comprising:

5 a host;
 at least one module for interfacing with the host to provide additional functionality to the host; and
 a configuration controller located in the host for reading at least one memory device located in the at least
10 one module for providing configuration information to the host.

2. A re-configurable interface as in claim 1, wherein the configuration controller self-extracts the configuration
15 information from the at least one memory device after interfacing with the at least one module with the host.

20 3. A re-configurable interface as in claim 1, further including a dedicated serial interface for exchanging information from the at least one memory device to the configuration controller.

25 4. A re-configurable interface as in claim 1, further including configurable logic operating with the configuration controller for configuring a host interface to operate with an at least one module interface.

30 5. A re-configurable interface as in claim 4, further including a plurality of connector pins at the host and at least one module that are electrically configured using the configurable logic.

6. A re-configurable interface as in claim 1, further including a microprocessor for communicating with the configuration controller.

7. A re-configurable electronic interface system for providing communication between a primary host device and a secondary accessory device comprising:

5 an interface controller including re-configurable logic associated with the primary host device;

at least one memory device associated with the secondary accessory device for communicating configuration information to the interface controller; and

10 wherein the interface controller sets the re-configurable logic of the electronic interface based on information from the at least one memory device for allowing compatibility between the secondary accessory device and the primary host device.

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8. A re-configurable electronic interface system as in claim 7, wherein a plurality of electrical interface pins for connecting the primary host device and the secondary accessory device are configured according to the re-configurable logic.

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9. A re-configurable electronic interface system as in claim 7, wherein the interface controller self-extracts the configuration information from the at least one memory device.

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10. A re-configurable electronic interface system as in claim 7, wherein the interface controller and at least one memory device communicate via a dedicated serial interface.

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11. A re-configurable electronic interface system as in claim 7, wherein the interface controller communicates with a microprocessor.

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12. A method of reconfiguring an interface used in a modular electronic architecture between a primary host device and a secondary module device comprising the steps
5 of:

providing an interface controller associated with the primary host device;

reading configuration information from at least one memory associated with the secondary module device; and

10 setting configurable logic in the primary host device such that an electrical interface is established between the primary host device and the secondary module device.

13. A method of reconfiguring an interface as in claim
15 12, further comprising the step of:

configuring a plurality of pins in the interface to provide capability between the primary host device and the secondary module device.

20 14. A method of reconfiguring an interface as in claim 12, further comprising the step of:

self-extracting the configuration information from the at least one memory when the secondary module device is connected with the primary host device.

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15. A method of reconfiguring an interface as in claim 12, further comprising the step of:

communicating between the interface controller and the at least one memory via a dedicated serial interface.

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16. A method of reconfiguring an interface as in claim 12, further comprising the step of:

controlling the interface controller using a microprocessor.

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